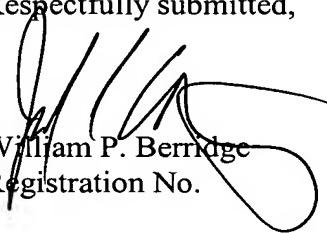


REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. By this amendment, the abstract is added, claims 3, 5, 8-12, and 16-24 are amended and claims 25-27 are canceled.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


William P. Berridge
Registration No.

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

WPB:JSA/mps

Date: January 25, 2005

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